



NEW BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL INC.
Ngā Timatanga hou
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MAY NEWSLETTER

24.05.2019

Kia ora parents/caregivers and whānau,

This month we say goodbye to Leah. We wish happy school days to Leah at Linwood Avenue School. We welcome Yev Prem, Alexander Siania (Geo's brother) and Ahmad Darweesh and their families to New Beginnings Preschool. We hope you have a wonderful time with us.

We farewell our teacher Sarah for a few months as she takes maternity leave. Sarah's last day is Friday 31st May and she will be back in early November. We wish Sarah and Tam all the best as they welcome their new addition to their family mid-June.



Sally Unwin has accepted Sarah's maternity cover. Sally has experience working in several high school and has been a Lecturer in Health Education at University of Canterbury. Sally has her Bachelor of Science, Diploma in Secondary Teaching, Post Graduate Diploma, Master of Education and Graduate Diploma of Teaching Early Childhood. Sally is looking to working with your children and meeting you all.

We also welcome Joanne Mathiasz as one of our casual relievers. Joanne has experience working for local community playgroups and kindergartens.



Current curriculum focus

Our curriculum focus continues with teachers supporting children's social and emotional wellbeing. This month the teachers have been focusing on turn taking. Turn taking is a valuable skill for making friends, waiting, being patient, negotiating and problem solving. Children need opportunities to practice turn taking. Physical outdoor games like ball catching and shooting hoops are great turn taking games that also develop coordination and motor skills. Indoor play with board games, cards and memory games are wonderful for practicing taking turns and to win and lose with games. Children need to win and lose frequently to learn how to handle both triumphs and disappointments in life. This builds their resilience skills and helps them develop and practice self-regulation.



In our nursery our new children are finding a sense of belonging as they become familiar with our routines. Moving into a new environment is a time of change and adaptation for children, their families/whānau and teachers. This time of change is commonly referred to as a transition. A child does not adapt to, and cope with, change in isolation. Parents, whānau, families, siblings, peers, and teachers in the child's world all play an important part in facilitating the process of change with children. Teachers have a crucial role to play in supporting and scaffolding both the child and family/whānau as they navigate their way into unfamiliar environments. Some of our nursery children are also transitioning to the preschool when they turn two years old. This process takes time over several weeks, so the children become familiar with the new routines and teachers in the over two's area. Our transition policy is up for review and we would like your input. Please read the policy in the foyer and add any comments thank you.

Kai time

The teaching team is trialing rolling kai for morning and afternoon tea. This means instead of all the children coming to the kai table at 9.30am and 2.30pm as a group the children can choose to either eat or play. The kai tables will be open between 9.45 - 10.30am and again from 2.00 - 2.45pm. This has allowed the programme to continue without interruption but for children to have flexibility in when they eat. They will be encouraged to eat only 2 -3 things from their lunchboxes and a teacher will monitor and ask children to come to kai over this time. All the children will still come together as a group for lunch where they learn how to make healthy choices, have social interactions, and talk to their friends. The teachers will evaluate this trial at the end of June.

Snippets this month

- Many illnesses are infectious, meaning they can be spread easily from one person to another. To stop sickness from spreading, it is important for you to keep your child at home when they are ill, and not let them go to school or an early childhood education centre. How long they should be home depends on what illness they have. When your child catches an illness, there will be an incubation period before they show symptoms. Some illnesses are infectious before symptoms show; some are infectious even after symptoms have disappeared. The Infectious Diseases table on the HealthEd website describes the symptoms and exclusion periods for some common childhood illnesses: www.healthed.govt.nz/resource-table/table-infectious-diseases. We also have a copy in our foyer.
- **Head Lice** - it is important to treat your child's hair as soon as you see live lice. We have "Nit Kits" here at preschool if you do not have any treatment or combs at home. These are FREE to any family. Please also read the attached flyer. It is also important to hot wash all children's bedding, hats and clothes every day too.
- **Pick up times** - Just a reminder if your child is due to be picked up at 3.00pm please try not to be late. We have teachers going home at this time and we need to ensure we keep to our child: teacher ratios. Thank you.
- **Lost property** - there is a lot of good jerseys/jackets/socks/tops in the lost property. Please check. If not claimed by the end of June we will wash them and donate them to charity.
- **Children's art** - All children's finished art is filed in two boxes in the art room. You can take your child's art anytime from here.
- **Learning Journals** - If you would like to contribute or just take your child's learning journal (profile book) home to read please fill in the small notebook hanging on the learning noticeboard with the date taken and date returned. Thank you.
- **New curtains / blinds** - photo - We would like to thank you Millers for installing all our new blinds and curtains and giving us a generous discount. After our lockdown in March it was important, we install these so we never have to tape brown paper to our windows again! Also, they will provide extra warmth to our building over the winter months.
- **Keeping contact details up to date.** If there are changes to who can pick up or who cannot collect your child please advise Rochelle at the office so we can keep our records up-to-date to ensure only authorised adults are collecting children.

Local primary schools contact details. Information and enrolment forms in our foyer.

- **Linwood Avenue School**, 260 Linwood Avenue, 389 9256, Email: office@linwoodave.school.nz
- **Bromley School**, 33 Keighleys Rd, 3897716, Email: office@bromley.school.nz
- **Whītau School** (North Linwood School), 221 Woodham Road, 389 8112 office@linwoodnorth.school.nz
- **Te Waka Unua School**: 476 Ferry Road, 389 9305 Email: office@tewaka.school.nz



Friday 28th June Matariki Disco
More information to come.

Board News

Next meeting: Tuesday 11th June 6pm
All welcome

I am on leave from 27 May to 10 June as I have been invited to attend an international academic programme in China following my Master of Education study last year. Stef our Curriculum Leader will be our point of contact while I am away.

Ngā mihi nui, Jo Knudsen, Acting Centre Manager